

SILLY RED TAPE OIL RULES

While Mexican Petroleum Is Barred from the American and English Navies, that Is Just What They Are Using.

By GEORGE MINER.

New York, Sept. 1.—During the recent hearings in Washington before the Senate Committee on Public Lands the coal and oil questions were discussed at length. These discussions brought out some interesting facts concerning the production and use of Mexican petroleum.

The main body of the widespread misunderstanding of this matter, helped along a lot by a number of publications on the subject. The surprising fact was brought out in the hearings that in both the English and American navies the fuel specifications now in force forbid the use of Mexican oil. "Mexican oil will not be accepted is the exact wording of the specification."

And yet 50 per cent of the fuel used in the English navy and a large proportion of that used in the American navy is Mexican oil. The two great navies of two great nations trying to fool themselves like that! The prohibition against Mexican oil was first made by the English navy and was followed by that of the United States. Of course they could not get along very well without Mexican oil and everyone knows it who knows anything about the matter. The prohibition was only a sham, a farce from the very start that England and the United States might save their faces and preserve a high and mighty attitude in dealing with Mexico.

The day after the English declares this prohibition is to have the oil shipped to the United States where it goes into a common pool. It is then shipped abroad and supplied to the navy as a "purely American product."

For the life of me I can see no object in all this silly red tape. It makes the Mexicans sore. They don't like being officially discriminated against, even though the discrimination is a fake. The fact was also brought out that there is enough oil in the world to supply the whole world's demands and then some. The only trouble lies in getting it away. It was shown that the potential production of the Mexican oil fields is a million barrels daily, but that because of lack of transportation facilities the actual production is much less—about a million barrels a week.

For instance the Huasteca Petroleum Company, an American concern, has wells already drilled which produce 300,000 barrels daily, but they are mostly shut down and only 50,000 barrels daily is allowed to flow. That is the amount that can be exported.

"We are producing all we can move," said the manager of the company. "This is true of all the other companies as well."

There is no difficulty in getting the oil to the coast, as the wells are located at no great distance from shipping points, and all are provided with pipe lines. There is something like 500 miles of these pipe lines in the comparatively limited area in which most of the wells in the republic are located. Ocean transportation is the difficulty and this is being overcome as rapidly as possible by the construction of oil-carrying steamers.

To expedite the shipments from Tampico four large dredges have been at work for some time in the Panuco River there and have deepened the channel to 100 feet. At the same time the sea wall has been extended three kilometers into the Gulf.

Despite the fact that only a seventh of Mexico's oil supply is being put on the market there is great activity in the oil business in our sister republic now that peace has been established. This is shown by the governmental concessions and permissions that have been granted within the last two weeks.

Secretary Paul of the department of industry and commerce, has recently granted permission to the Penn-Mex Fuel Company, to sink a well near Tuxpam, in the State of Vera Cruz. The Corona Petroleum Company has been given similar permission to sink a well in the municipality of Panuco, State of Vera Cruz. The Peperata Petroleum Company has also been given a like permission in the municipality of Tancitaro, Vera Cruz. The East Coast Oil Company has been granted permission to construct a pipe line for carrying oil in the northern portion of the State of Vera Cruz. The American Petroleum Company, which is one of the Pearson interests, has been given permission to install refining machinery at Minatitlan, Vera Cruz. The New England Fuel Company has been given similar permission at Pueblo Viejo, Vera Cruz; and the Corona Company has recently bought a well 25 meters deep which produces twenty-eight cubic meters of oil daily.

These investors are all experienced oil men and they certainly would not put their money into a business where there is a present great over production unless they were convinced that in the near future they could get their product out to a market. In other words, there will soon be ocean-going bottoms enough to insure a return to something like normal freight rates. Maps are now being prepared of the petroleum regions of the republic which will show exactly what lands are the property of the government and will furnish a much needed guide for the granting of concessions for the exploitation of oil measures in the future. There is already in existence a good mineral map of Mexico, but an oil map was never before attempted.

The Transcontinental Petroleum Company, in which foreign capital is largely invested, has been given permission to maintain for five years a wharf on the Panuco River for the handling of its products and the Huasteca Petroleum Company, an American concern, has been granted a like permission on the same river for eight years. The only stipulation the Mexican government made or recompense asked was that any government traffic over these wharves is to be free of expense.

The war in Europe has given the petroleum industry in Yucatan a very marked impulse, as there is an unusual demand for fiber in England. One thousand two hundred and fifty families recently arrived at Progreso, for employment in the fiber industry. The wages paid are so high and the conditions of the working people so favorable that little difficulty is found in securing people in other portions of the republic who are willing to migrate. Four steamers are to be sent to Vera Cruz next month to transport the large number of people gathering there and waiting for a chance to get to Yucatan.

So great is the demand for labor in Yucatan—it is estimated that half a million laborers could be employed at once—that arrangements are being made to import workers in large numbers from other countries. It has been found that a large contingent can be secured from Cuba and also an equally big number from Spain. This demand is constantly increasing as oil industries are being opened up and new ones started. To accommodate this new army of workers a suitable tract of land has been set aside in Merida, the capital of Yucatan, for the erection of a large number of homes for working people.

became one of the phenomenal runs in New York.

This A. H. Woods production will have Thomas E. Shea, of "The Bella" and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" fame, interpreting the virtue character of Judge Samuel Tilden.

"Common Clay" deals with one of the bitter problems of life in which two existences, which should by all laws of right belong together, become widely separated, only to come together at last under circumstances which would seem incredible if such cases were not known to have occurred.

Truth is indeed stranger than fiction, and the young cabaret singer, Ellen Neal, who in her fight to lead a respectable life, finds the relentless cross-examiner, in the third act, blocking her way, is appealingly pitiful.

The part of Ellen Neal will be played by a young actress who will surprise and delight the audiences, and much is expected from her. Mr. Shea starred in "Common Clay" last season.

Loew's Columbia—Mary Pickford. Mary Pickford in "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," from the play and novel by Kate Douglas Wiggin and Charlotte Thompson, will be the feature photograph at Loew's Columbia for the entire week beginning next Sunday. Thousands will remember the story of Rebecca Randall and her large family of brothers and sisters, living at Sunnybrook Farm, which is principally remarkable for the size of the mortgage it carries.

The task of taking care of all the children is too much for Mrs. Randall, so finally Rebecca is sent to her two aunts, Miranda and Jane Sawyer, who are strict New England disciplinarians, and they strive to bring Rebecca up in the way they think that she should be. The screen version is very similar to that of the stage and Miss Pickford has a part that fits her talents excellently.

Moore's Garden—Ann Murdock. Ann Murdock, whose stage success is well known to theater goers of the National Capital will headline the program at Moore's Garden. Theater week of September 9 in a stirring, vivid drama entitled "The Outcast." This is the premier production of the Frohman Company in the field of film and is a forerunner of other Frohman dramas to find their way to the screen. The picture will hold the screen until Wednesday inclusive. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday another popular favorite, Gail Kane, will be seen in a drama of contrast and heart interest entitled "The Unafraid."

Goldwyn Picture Corporation, a powerful newcomer in the field of motion pictures, will present its initial feature "Poly of the Circus" starring the versatile screen favorite Mae Marsh for the entire week of September 9. The picture was made at the Washington theaters and will remember this drama as having been used as a stage vehicle for several seasons by Mabel Taliaferro and it opens up unlimited opportunities for the camera. To give the proper atmosphere to the picture the Goldwyn company rented an entire three ringed circus outfit with its many side shows and white tops, and the picture gives Miss Marsh the most congenial role of her career.

MODEL BECOMES FILM STAR.

Most of the outdoor sculptor work revealed at the Panama-Pacific International exposition in San Francisco were posed for by Miss Audrey Munson, whose work before the camera is to be disclosed at the Casino Theater this week. Among the notable works other than these for which Miss Munson posed that are now prominent in galleries are the "Galatea" of Albini, the "Andromeda" of Mlle. Marguerite, and "The Bath of Psyche" by Leighton. The figures upon the Pulitzer Memorial opposite the Plaza hotel, in New York, are further examples of her work before great artists, who have acknowledged her sure as the best brought to their attention.

CONCERTS AT BELASCO.

The Symphony Society of New York, Walter Damrosch, conductor, will give four concerts this season (an increase of one over last year), at Belasco, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.

POLI'S OPEN LABOR DAY.

Manager Fred T. Berger, of Poli's Theater, announces that in addition to the innovation of having the opening performance of "Poly of the Circus" on Tuesday, there will be a special Labor Day Matinee tomorrow—Labor Day and on account of the Honor Parade to the Selective Army, the Matinee on Tuesday will begin at 1:30 o'clock. Other Matinees during the week will be on Thursday and Saturday.

A new clamp to hold a cover on a milk bottle also serves as a handle to carry the bottle.

MISS AUDREY MUNSON, who has won international fame as an artist's model and who will be seen at the Casino this week in the photo-play, "Purity."



THE CURRENT WEEK

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be added to the free attractions today. Dancing in the big pavilion with music by an augmented orchestra is one of the most popular of the long list of pastimes that make the daily pleasure offering at the park.

The midway with its funny mirrors, giant slides, fiery rides, human mazes, and other features has proven almost as popular with the parents as with the youngsters, while the numerous other amusement devices add needed spice to the evening's fun. Free motion pictures are on the daily program and no charge for admission is ever made.

Casino—"Purity."

At the Casino theater this week, commencing with an afternoon at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, the new management will present a screen phantasy that has been declared the most remarkable picture-tization of an allegory ever disclosed. It.

AMUSEMENTS.

T. Arthur Smith announces for the musical season 1917-18.

THIRD SEASON

THE TEN STAR

CONCERT SERIES

TEN FRIDAY AFTERNOONS

With the following well-known artists:

Claudia Muzio, Prima Sop., Met. Opera Co.

Arthur Middleton, Baritone

Theo Karle, Tenor

Maud Powell, Violinist,

Russian Symphony Orchestra

Leginska, Pianist

Julia Clausen, the Swedish Contralto

Paul Reimers, Tenor

Lucy Gates, Soprano

Eddy Brown, Violinist

Anna Case, Soprano

Leopold Godowsky, Pianist

Arkady Bourstin, Violinist

Margarete Matzenauer, Contralto

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has attracted the widest attention wherever it has been shown, and caused no end of controversy.

Miss Audrey Munson, world-famous as an artist's model, is seen in the name part of the play, which has been called "Purity." Miss Munson, who has been long recognized as one of the most beautiful and perfectly formed women in the world, is seen in a series of classic dances and poses, surrounded by a very large company, most of them young women who have had the benefit of long training in the celebrated school of Ruth St. Denis, at Los Angeles.

The picture was filmed, for the most part, in carefully selected locations in California, and the beautiful vistas form an exquisite background for the unfolding of an interesting story. Incidental to the action of the play Miss Munson is seen in a series of classic poses, some of them being reproductions of famous works of art for which she herself posed. "Purity" will be shown each afternoon at 2:30 o'clock and every evening at 8:30 during this week.

Casino—Audrey Munson.

Audrey Munson, who is featured in the film phantasy which has been

made in the sylvan shades of California, and which comes to the Casino Theater next week, has for some time been recognized as the most perfect of artists' models. Miss Munson is established in enduring marble and bronze in art centers of the world, and Washington has a fountain, in the